

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, drug and alcohol abuse in the United States prevent millions of people from reaching their full potential at school, on the job, and in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the rate of drug and alcohol abuse by our nation's young people remains alarmingly high, with approximately 3 million young people between the ages of 14 and 17 facing problems with alcohol and/or other drugs and more than half of America's school-age children having tried illegal drugs by the time they have finished high school; and

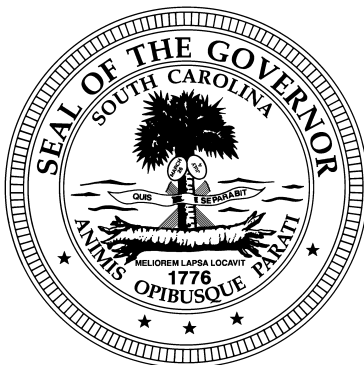
WHEREAS, research indicates that young people who avoid the early use of alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana are less likely to engage in other harmful behaviors such as crime, delinquency, and other illegal drug use; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1988 in honor of undercover Drug Enforcement Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena who was kidnapped, tortured, and murdered by members of a drug gang in Mexico on February 7, 1985, National Red Ribbon Week is designed to raise awareness of the dangers of the use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, with businesses, schools, faith-based organizations, neighborhoods, and communities across South Carolina and the nation participating in health fairs, rallies, carnivals, parades, dances, contests, and other events.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 23 - 31, 2003, as

RED RIBBON WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to teach our young people that drug and alcohol abuse is dangerous and harmful to both their health and their future.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford", is written over a horizontal line.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA